



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

SOCIOLOGY

CHANGE REQUEST REPORT

Change Request Tracking Number: 2026-SOC-9357

Title of Change Request: New UG Courses – Sociology (associated with 9342)

Status of Change Request: In Workflow

Change Request can be split

CHANGE REQUEST CONTENTS

#	Type	Title
1.	New Course	Medical Sociology

2.	New Course	Social Determinants of Health
3.	New Course	Sociology of Education
4.	New Course	Social Problems & Public Sociology

CHANGE REQUEST HISTORY

Workflow Stage	Action Type	Action Taken By	Change Made	Action Rationale	Date
Initiator	Approved	Karen Woychyshyn	No	Submitted to workflow	08/07/2026, 11:06 AM
Submission Review (Manager of Curriculum Development)	Approved	Submission Review	Yes	ok to move forward in workflow – associated with #9357	08/27/2026, 02:10 PM

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AUDIT TRAIL

None.

CHANGE REQUEST COMMENTS

None.

1.	New Course	Medical Sociology
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Justification

This course reflects current instructor research and teaching interests, responds to growing student interest in health-related sociology, and strengthen the department's programming in areas such as health inequities, access to care, social policy, and the social conditions that shape health and illness.

COURSE DETAILS

NEW COURSE FORM – The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar

What is the new Course Code? (please email navigator@lakeheadu.ca to confirm one): Sociology 2014

Title of New Course: Medical Sociology

Course Description: Introduces students to sociological approaches to health, illness, medicine, and health care. Topics may include the social construction of illness, medicalization, professional power, patient-provider relationships, health care systems, and the lived experience of illness.

Credit Weight of this Course: 0.5

Offering (Hours of instruction) e.g. 3-0; 3-0: 3-0; or 3-0

What is the Grade Scheme?:

**Is this a Special Topics
course?:**

**Is this course cross listed
with another? If so, enter
the other course code here:**

Course Classification(s):

- Type B: Social Sciences

The following is information for Committee Review

Faculty or Institution

Unit:

- Lakehead University

**Calendar Start Term. When
this change should be
displayed in the Calendar:**

2027-28

**Calendar End Term. When is
the last calendar year
this should be displayed?:**

No Specified End Date

Academic Level: Undergraduate

**Is this a required course,
or an elective?:**

Elective

**What is the pedagogical
rationale for this
request? Why are you
submitting this request?:**

This course reflects current instructor research and teaching interests, responds to growing student interest in health-related sociology, and strengthen the department's programming in areas such as health inequities, access to care, social policy, and the social conditions that shape health and illness.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain key sociological approaches to health, illness, medicine, and health care. 2. Apply concepts such as the social construction of illness, medicalization, stigma, professional power, and the sick role to examples of health and illness. 3. Describe how social institutions, health care systems, and professional practices shape experiences of illness, treatment, and care. 4. Analyze patient-provider relationships using sociological concepts related to authority, inequality, communication, and trust. 5. Use sociological evidence to critically examine common-sense explanations of health, illness, and medical practice. 6. Apply sociological knowledge of health, illness, medicine, and health care to fields such as health services, social services, public policy, community work, advocacy, and health-related research.

The following is information for Senate Budget Committee Consideration

NOTE: Complete each section and provide full explanations for both "yes" and "no" answers. This will not be displayed in the calendar but will be used by the Senate Budget Committee when considering approval of this proposal. The creator of this proposal may be asked to attend a committee meeting to discuss this proposal. Contact the Chair of the Senate Budget Committee if you wish to discuss any of the questions below.

Will this request impact student enrolment in another program within the same faculty/unit?: No

Will this request impact student enrolment in another program in a different faculty/unit?: No

Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc)? : No

How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?: No impact

What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc)? : No impact

Will this course require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding: No

2.	New Course	Social Determinants of Health
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Justification

This course reflects current instructor research and teaching interests, responds to growing student interest in health-related sociology, and strengthen the department's programming in areas such as health inequities, access to care, social policy, and the social conditions that shape health and illness.

COURSE DETAILS

NEW COURSE FORM – The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar

What is the new Course Code? (please email navigator@lakeheadu.ca to confirm one): Sociology 2015

Title of New Course: Social Determinants of Health

Course Description: Examines how social, economic, political, and environmental conditions shape patterns of health, illness, and health inequity. Students will explore how factors such as income, housing, racism, colonialism, gender, sexuality, geography, disability, and access to services affect health across populations and communities.

Credit Weight of this Course: 0.5

Offering (Hours of instruction) e.g. 3-0; 3-0: 3-0; or 3-0

What is the Grade Scheme?:

Is this a Special Topics course?:

Is this course cross listed with another? If so, enter the other course code here:

Course Classification(s):

- Type B: Social Sciences

The following is information for Committee Review

Faculty or Institution

Unit:

- Lakehead University

Calendar Start Term. When this change should be displayed in the Calendar:

2027-28

Calendar End Term. When is the last calendar year this should be displayed?:

No Specified End Date

Academic Level: Undergraduate

Is this a required course, or an elective?:

Elective

What is the pedagogical rationale for this request? Why are you submitting this request?:

This course reflects current instructor research and teaching interests, responds to growing student interest in health-related sociology, and strengthen the department's programming in areas such as health inequities, access to care, social policy, and the social conditions that shape health and illness.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Define the social determinants of health and explain their relevance to sociology and population health. 2. Describe how income, housing, education, employment, racism, colonialism, gender, sexuality, disability, geography, and access to services shape health outcomes. 3. Explain how health inequities are produced through social structures, institutions, and public policies rather than individual behaviour alone. 4. Apply sociological concepts to examples of health inequity across different populations and communities. 5. Interpret basic social and health evidence to identify patterns of inequality and their social causes. 6. Use sociological analysis of health inequities to identify how social conditions, institutional practices, and policy decisions affect communities, organizations, and service delivery contexts.

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Will this request impact student enrolment in another program in a different faculty/unit?: No

Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc)? : No

How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?: No impact

What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc)? : No impact

Will this course require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding: No

3.	New Course	Sociology of Education
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Justification

As part of Sociology's curricular vitality planning, the department has phased out SOCI 3105 Sociology of Education, the full-year 1.0 FCE version of this course. This new half-course retains the existing title and core content while condensing delivery into a 0.5 FCE format. The change allows the department to continue offering important sociological content on education, schooling, inequality, socialization, and institutional power while creating a more flexible and sustainable course structure.

COURSE DETAILS

NEW COURSE FORM – The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar

What is the new Course Code? (please email navigator@lakeheadu.ca to confirm one): Sociology 3012

Title of New Course: Sociology of Education

Course Description: The school as a social institution and its relation to other institutions. An examination of cultural values and educational aims; recruitment of students and educators; social origin of students and educators; role allocations in classroom, with peers and in the community.

Credit Weight of this Course: 0.5

Offering (Hours of instruction) e.g. 3-0; 3-0: 3-0; or 3-0

List any special notes or restrictions for this course here: Students who previously completed Sociology 3105 – Sociology of Education are not able to take this course for credit.

What is the Grade Scheme?:

Is this a Special Topics course?:

Is this course cross listed with another? If so, enter the other course code here:

Course Classification(s):
• Type B: Social Sciences

The following is information for Committee Review

Faculty or Institution Unit: • Lakehead University

Calendar Start Term. When this change should be displayed in the Calendar: 2027-28

Calendar End Term. When is the last calendar year this should be displayed?: No Specified End Date

Academic Level: Undergraduate

Is this a required course, or an elective?: Elective

What is the pedagogical rationale for this request? Why are you submitting this request?: As part of Sociology's curricular vitality planning, the department has phased out SOCI 3105 Sociology of Education, the full-year 1.0 FCE version of this course. This new half-course retains the existing title and core content while condensing delivery into a 0.5 FCE format. The change allows the department to continue offering important sociological content on education, schooling, inequality, socialization, and institutional power while creating a more flexible and sustainable course structure.

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze education as a social institution and explain its relationship to family, economy, state, culture, and other institutions. 2. Apply sociological theories of education to issues such as socialization, inequality, credentialism, streaming, hidden curriculum, and social reproduction. 3. Examine how class, race, Indigeneity, gender, sexuality, disability, and geography shape educational access, experience, and outcomes. 4. Evaluate how schools organize roles, expectations, authority, peer relations, and classroom interactions. 5. Critically assess the relationship between educational policy, cultural values, and broader patterns of social inequality. 6. Apply sociological knowledge of education, inequality, socialization, and institutional organization to work in schools, social services, community organizations, policy, advocacy, and youth-serving settings.

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Will this request impact student enrolment in another program within the same faculty/unit?:

No

Will this request impact student enrolment in another program in a different faculty/unit?:

No

Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc)?:

No

How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?:

No impact

What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc)? :

No impact

Will this course require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding:

No

4.	New Course	Social Problems & Public Sociology
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Justification

This course reflects current faculty research and teaching interests in applied sociology, public sociology, social inequality, and community-engaged research. It responds to growing student interest in applied social science learning among Sociology majors and non-majors, while also supporting the Honours BA Sociology curriculum. By focusing on contemporary social problems and public sociology, the course will help students apply sociological theory and research to real-world issues, policy debates, and community contexts. It will also provide Honours students with valuable preparation for the Honours Thesis Seminar by strengthening their skills in sociological analysis, evidence-based writing, and research communication.

COURSE DETAILS

NEW COURSE FORM – The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar

What is the new Course Code? (please email navigator@lakeheadu.ca to confirm one):

Sociology 4011

Title of New Course: Social Problems & Public Sociology

Course Description: Examines contemporary social problems through social theory, research, and public engagement. Topics may include community based research, poverty, racism, gender and sexuality, health inequality, climate/environmental crisis, northern issues, and social policy. Students will learn how sociologists define social problems, evaluate evidence, challenge common-sense explanations, and communicate sociological knowledge to public, policy, and community audiences.

Credit Weight of this Course: 0.5

Offering (Hours of instruction) e.g. 3-0; 3-0: 3-0; or 3-0

What is the Grade Scheme?:

Is this a Special Topics course?:

Is this course cross listed with another? If so, enter the other course code here:

Course Classification(s):
• Type B: Social Sciences

The following is information for Committee Review

Faculty or Institution Unit: • Lakehead University

Calendar Start Term. When this change should be displayed in the Calendar: 2027-28

Calendar End Term. When is the last calendar year this should be displayed?: No Specified End Date

Academic Level: Undergraduate

Is this a required course, or an elective?:

What is the pedagogical rationale for this request? Why are you submitting this request?: This course reflects current faculty research and teaching interests in applied sociology, public sociology, social inequality, and community-engaged research. It responds to growing student interest in applied social science learning among Sociology majors and non-majors, while also supporting the Honours BA Sociology curriculum. By focusing on contemporary social problems and public sociology, the course will help students apply sociological theory and research to real-world issues, policy debates, and community contexts. It will also provide Honours students with valuable preparation for the Honours Thesis Seminar by strengthening their skills in sociological analysis, evidence-based writing, and research communication.

Learning Outcomes: 1. Critically analyze how social problems are defined, framed, researched, contested, and addressed within sociology and public life. 2. Apply advanced sociological theory and research evidence to contemporary issues such as

poverty, racism, gender and sexuality, health inequality, environmental crisis, northern issues, and social policy. 3. Evaluate competing explanations of social problems and challenge individualistic or common-sense accounts using sociological evidence. 4. Assess the possibilities and limitations of public sociology, community-based research, and knowledge mobilization in addressing social problems. 5. Communicate sociological analysis clearly and effectively to public, policy, and community audiences. 6. Translate sociological research and theory into clear, evidence-informed communication for public, policy, community, and organizational audiences.

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No

Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc)?:

No

How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?:

No impact

What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc)? :

No impact

Will this course require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding:

No